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FEB 16 2006

Docket No.: 101896-232  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Frank Scott Bono et al.

Application No.: 10/828,508

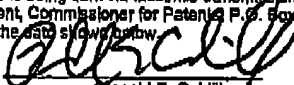
Filed: April 20, 2004

For: LOCKING CAP ASSEMBLY FOR SPINAL  
FIXATION INSTRUMENTATION

Confirmation No.: 4285

Art Unit: 3733

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile transmission  
to (571) 273-8300: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box  
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.  
Dated: February 16, 2006 Signature:   
(Ronald E. Cahill)

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 16, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.